

# CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

## POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

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### ENROLLMENT OF NONWHITE YOUTHS ROSE SHARPLY IN LAST FIVE YEARS

(Advance data, October 1961 sample survey)

The school enrollment rate of nonwhite youths of high school age increased sharply during the last five years, according to the results of the Current Population Survey conducted in October 1961 by the Bureau of the Census. The percent of nonwhite youths 14 to 17 years old enrolled in school rose from 81 in 1956 to 87 in 1961. During the same period, the enrollment rate for white youths in the same age group increased from 89 to 92 percent.

In other age groups also, significant differences in the enrollment rates of white and nonwhite youths still existed in 1961, with the rates for nonwhites in 1961 generally lagging behind those of the whites in 1956.

Total school and college enrollment in the fall of 1961 reached 47.7 million. About 2.3 million persons were enrolled in kindergarten,

30.7 million were in elementary school (grades 1 to 8), 11.0 million were in high school (grades 9 to 12), and 3.7 million were enrolled in college or professional school.

Enrollment statistics shown in this report refer to the civilian noninstitutional population reported as enrolled in regular schools and colleges by the middle of October, when the Current Population Survey was conducted. The statistics include both full-time and part-time students and persons who were working in addition to attending school. These figures may differ from figures on school enrollment reported by other sources, largely because (1) the Bureau of the Census collects data by household interviews, whereas information from other sources is generally based on reports from school systems and institutions of higher learning; and (2) there are often

Table 1.—PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 5 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN SCHOOL, BY AGE AND COLOR, FOR THE UNITED STATES: OCTOBER 1961 AND 1956

Age	1961		1956	
	White	Nonwhite	White	Nonwhite
Total, 5 to 34 years.....	56.9	56.8	52.5	51.5
5 and 6 years.....	82.2	79.1	78.4	72.8
7 to 13 years.....	99.5	98.2	99.4	98.4
14 to 17 years.....	92.0	86.9	89.2	81.2
18 to 24 years.....	22.5	15.8	20.1	15.7
25 to 34 years.....	3.3	1.7	3.7	1.9

differences in definitions and time references. Also, enrollment as of October will usually be lower than enrollment for the whole school year because the latter provides a cumulative count of persons who enter school at different times throughout the school year.

Since the figures presented in this report are based on sample data, they may differ

from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census. The sampling variation may be relatively large where the numbers shown are small. A more complete statement on the variability due to sampling, as well as more detailed information about the fall enrollment figures, will be issued in a later report in this series.

Table 2.—FALL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 5 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY LEVEL OF SCHOOL AND AGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: OCTOBER 1956 TO 1961

(Numbers in thousands. Statistics for 1960 and 1961 include Alaska and Hawaii, not included in earlier years. Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded)

Level of school and age	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
<b>LEVEL OF SCHOOL</b>						
Total, 5 to 34 years.....	47,708	46,259	44,370	42,900	41,166	39,353
Kindergarten.....	2,299	2,092	2,032	1,991	1,824	1,758
Elementary school (grades 1 to 8).....	30,718	30,349	29,382	28,184	27,248	26,169
High school (grades 9 to 12).....	10,959	10,249	9,616	9,482	8,956	8,543
College or professional school.....	3,731	3,570	3,340	3,242	3,138	2,883
<b>AGE</b>						
<b>Number Enrolled</b>						
Total, 5 to 34 years.....	47,708	46,259	44,370	42,900	41,166	39,353
5 to 13 years.....	32,439	32,059	30,848	29,724	28,534	27,543
5 and 6 years.....	6,638	6,438	6,222	6,101	5,829	5,597
7 to 13 years.....	25,801	25,621	24,626	23,623	22,705	21,946
14 to 17 years.....	11,163	10,242	9,839	9,446	9,067	8,413
18 and 19 years.....	1,952	1,817	1,601	1,564	1,409	1,407
20 to 24 years.....	1,468	1,350	1,283	1,307	1,336	1,192
25 to 29 years.....	456	514	538	603	604	566
30 to 34 years.....	230	278	261	255	216	232
<b>Percent Enrolled</b>						
Total, 5 to 34 years.....	56.8	56.4	55.5	54.8	53.6	52.3
5 to 13 years.....	95.1	95.1	94.8	94.8	94.4	94.0
5 and 6 years.....	81.7	80.7	80.0	80.4	78.6	77.6
7 to 13 years.....	99.3	99.5	99.4	99.5	99.5	99.3
14 to 17 years.....	91.4	90.3	90.2	89.2	89.5	88.2
18 and 19 years.....	38.0	38.4	36.8	37.6	34.9	35.4
20 to 24 years.....	13.7	13.1	12.7	13.4	14.0	12.8
25 to 29 years.....	4.4	4.9	5.1	5.7	5.5	5.1
30 to 34 years.....	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.2	1.8	1.9